MARVEL COMICS

DOUBLE- SIZED 25TH ISSUE

RAVAGE 2099

$2.95 US
$4.00 CAN
25
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NO. 1

DOUBLE SIZED ISSUE

IF WE WERE TO FIND THE "VALLEY OF THE BEASTS", IT SEEMED STUPID FOR ME TO RIDE AROUND ALL THE TIME ON FERRA'S BACK.

SO WE SPLIT UP. SHE DROPPED ME OFF AT THIS OLD SHACK TO QUESTION ITS OCCUPANT, WHILE SHE FLEW OFF TO SURVEY THE AREA FROM ABOVE.

FERRA WILL BE GONE FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS AND I NEED TO FEEL THE GROUND BENEATH MY FEET...

SO, BILL--YOU'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF THE VALLEY? TELL ME, HAVE YOU LIVED HERE LONG?

SORRY, SON... I'M SURE IF THERE WAS SOME VALLEY FILLED WITH CRITTERS LOOKIN' LIKE YOU--I'DA *HEARD.*

BUT ON THE OTHER QUESTION--LEMME SEE NOW... AH, ABOUT A WEEK... IF TOMORROW'S WEDNESDAY...

A WEEK? SO YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW THE AREA?

RAVAGE 2099™ Vol. 1, No. 25, December, 1994. (ISSN # 1067-0553) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $2.95 per copy in the U.S. and $4.00 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: $18.00 U.S.; $30.00 foreign, and Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by [illegible] dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. RAVAGE 2099 (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO RAVAGE 2099, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING CORP./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (212) 696-0610. PRINTED IN USA.**

NOPE! I COME FROM WAY UP NORTH... I *THINK* IT'S NORTH... JUST FIGURED I'D SETTLE HERE... DIE ALL TUCKED UP IN A PROPER BED.

UH, RIGHT... SO, BILL, WHY HERE...? WHAT'S THE BIG ATTRACTION WITH THIS CABIN?

PRICE, SON! FORMER OCCUPANTS GIVE IT TO ME FER A GALLON OF RYE AND A FUSION-POWERED DESERT-SKED.

SEEMS THEY WERE IN A REAL HURRY TO MOVE.

VERY INTERESTING, BILL...

DO YOU GET MANY EARTHQUAKES HERE? I THINK I FEEL A TREMOR...

NO, THEY NEVER MENTIONED NO--WHAT THE...?

BILL, RUN! GET OUT OF HERE!

FORSHOKSAKE! MOVE IT!

UUNNNH!

I'D NEVER BEEN SO COMPLETELY TRASHED... I DON'T THINK THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT HASN'T BEEN REARRANGED!

GRRROAWWL.

RRRAAGH!

IT TOOK NEARLY *TWO MINUTES* FOR MY BODY TO REPAIR ITSELF! *SOMEONE* WAS GOING TO HAVE TO PAY FOR DOING THAT!

EVERY TIME I GET SMASHED UP AND I REFORM... I BECOME A LITTLE ~~LESS~~ *HUMAN!*

GROOOWL!

THAT HURTS!

FORWARD, YOU LUCKY PEASANTS, LORD FLAME BEARER WAITS TO HONOR YOU.

BUT I KEEP TELLING YOU, I'M NOT FIFTY UNTIL NEXT YEAR.

AH! THE SICK AND THE OLD...

HOW FORTUNATE YOU ARE AND HOW PRIVILEGED I AM, TO SEND YOU INTO THE EMBRACE OF THE GREAT FLAME!

LORD FLAME BEARER... TAKE ME ALSO... I WISH TO GO THROUGH THE FIRE OF LIFE!

INDEED FAITHFUL SERVANT, I SHALL!

THIS DAY YOU SHALL BE CLOTHED IN BRIGHT RAIMENT... VERY BRIGHT, INDEED!

MY LORD, THERE IS A STRANGER AT THE TOWN GATE... HE MAY BE A PILGRIM, FOR HE TALKS OF THE DIVINE ONE.

A PILGRIM, YOU SAY? IT IS RARE THAT ANY COME SEARCHING FOR THE GREAT FLAME... IN FACT IT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE...

PERHAPS HE IS AN EMISSARY SENT TO PREPARE US FOR THE COMING OF THE DIVINE ONE...? LEAD HIM HERE... THE SIGHT OF TODAY'S OFFERING MAY PLEASE HIM.

AFTER I'D BURIED OLD BILL IN HIS BED, I WALKED FOR TWO DAYS FOLLOWING THE SMELL OF COOKING AND HUMAN HABITATION... I WANTED ANSWERS FROM THESE PEOPLE!

YOU'D KNOW IF YOU'D SEEN IT... I DIDN'T GET MUCH OF A LOOK, BUT IT WAS SOME KIND OF HUGE *TRUCK* WITH BLAZING HEADLIGHTS!

WE CAN SAY NOTHING OF THIS, STRANGER... THE *LORD FLAME* BEARER CAN SPEAK TO YOU OF THESE THINGS.

ER, LET ME START AGAIN...

I'M LOOKIN' FOR A GIANT RUNAWAY TRUCK... SOME KIND OF ROBOT BEHIND THE WHEEL... HAVE YOU SEEN *ANYTHING* LIKE THAT?

YOU SPEAK OF THE "DIVINE ONE"... THE MIGHTY ARM OF THE GREAT FLAME...

ARE YOU AN EMISSARY SENT TO TEST US?

I HAVE SEEN MUCH, EMISSARY OF LIGHT -- BUT FIRST LET ME SHOW YOU *THIS!*

I BAPTIZE YOU WITH *FIRE* AND SEND YOU ON TO THE GREAT FLAME!

WHAAAAT??

FEWPOOF

AHH!

ARGH!

EEEEGH!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT "GREAT FLAME" GARBAGE IS--

--BUT YOU BETTER HAVE A SHOCK'N GOOD EXPLANATION!

GLUURK! PLEASE, GRRGH! LET ME GO!

GUARDS! DON'T TOUCH HIM... THIS ALL MAY BE A TEST OF OUR FAITH!

HORNED ONE--ARE YOU, OR ARE YOU NOT-- AN EMISSARY OF THE DIVINE ONE?

I'M NOBODY'S ANYTHING... AND LIKE I SAY, I WANT AN EXPLANATION.

AH, I PERCEIVE THIS IS TRULY A TEST...

VERY WELL, HOLY ONE... YOU SHALL NOT FIND ME LACKING IN DOGMA...

ONE CENTURY AGO, ALL ON EARTH WAS PEACE AND HARMONY.. IT HAD BEEN SO FOR MANY HUNDRED YEARS. WE CALL THIS "THE GOLDEN TIMES"...

BUT MANKIND, IN HIS PRIDE, FELT HIMSELF TO BE MIGHTIER THAN FIRE... THIS ANGERED "THE GREAT FLAME"..

SO THE GREAT FLAME MANIFESTED ITSELF UPON THIS EARTHLY PLANE AND THE GOLDEN TIMES WERE ENDED.

THE FLAME DECREED THAT MAN SHOULD *STRUGGLE* IN THE WILDERNESS AND [illegible] OFFERINGS WITH FIRE... ALL OLD AND SICK--*AND DISBELIEVERS* --WERE TO BE OFFERED [illegible] LORD FLAME BEARERS.

ALSO, EVERY YEAR ALL THE YOUNG GIRLS...

I'VE HEARD SIMILAR STORIES BEFORE...

IN FACT, IT WAS PEOPLE LIKE YOU THAT MADE SURE THERE NEVER WERE ANY "GOLDEN TIMES"!

YEAH, OKAY! THAT'S ENOUGH SCREWY HISTORY...

WHAT YOU BOZOS DO IN YOUR OWN BACK-YARD IS YOUR OWN SORRY BUSINESS...

...ALL I WANNA KNOW IS--WHERE *DOES* THE *GIANT TRUCK* FIT IN ALL OF THIS?

GUARDS, STAY YOUR HANDS! HE MAY YET BE TESTING...

SURELY YOU JEST, EMISSARY... VERY WELL, I SHALL CONTINUE...

FOR ALL OUR SACRIFICE, THERE WAS STILL DARKNESS IN THE SMALL CORNERS OF OUR MINDS... THE GREAT FLAME WILL NOT TOLERATE THE DARK.

SO HE SENT THE "DIVINE ONE" TO UTTERLY DESTROY US... HE ROARS PAST OUR VILLAGE ONCE A MONTH, ALWAYS GETTING CLOSER... WE JOYFULLY AWAIT ANNIHILATION AT HIS HANDS!

YOU'RE MAD! YOU'VE ALSO GOT A LONG WAIT... I'M GOING TO FIND YOUR "DIVINE ONE" AND STUFF HIS HEADLIGHTS UP HIS TAIL PIPE!

GUARDS! GOOD PEOPLE OF THE FLAME! KILL HIM!
IN THE NAME OF THE FLAME... REMOVE THIS -- IMPOSTER -- FROM OUR MIDST!
HE IS NO EMISSARY -- BUT AN IMPOSTER SENT BY THE FORCES OF DARKNESS!

THESE PEOPLE WERE SERIOUSLY DELUDED--BUT I WASN'T GOING TO KILL THEM FOR IT... THAT WOULD [redacted]VE [redacted] ME NO BETTER THAN THEM.

IN THE NAME O' THE FLAME! IN THE NAME O' THE FLAME!

KILL HIM! SLAY THE AGENT OF THE DARK!

WAIT A MINUTE, ALL OF YOU... I DON'T WANT TO *HURT* YOU PEOPLE! JUST BACK OFF!

ON THE OTHER HAND I WAS GOING TO HAVE TO DO *SOMETHING*...

KRAK!

DIE, UN-BELIEVER! **DIE!**

YOU STUPID-- **AARGH!**

TIMES LIKE THIS, IT'S REAL HARD TO [redacted] HUMAN! SOME DARK AND NASTY SIDE OF ME IS JUST ITCHING TO RIP AND TEAR AND BITE AND CRUSH!

YOU SAD LOSERS ARE LUCKY I'M PUNCHING YOU...

...IF I OPENED MY CLAWS I'D RIP YOU ALL TO SHREDS!

IN THE NAME O' THE FLAME! IN THE NAME O' THE FLAME!

THESE PEOPLE REALLY HAD THE LOOK... I'D HEARD OF "HITTABLE" FACES BEFORE BUT NEVER REALLY UNDERSTOOD HOW *TEMPTING* IT COULD BE!

IMPOSTER! KILL THE *IMPOSTER!*

IT'S GREAT TO MEET THE *SAME* NICE, OPEN AND FRIENDLY RELIGIOUS *TOLERANCE* I'VE COME TO EXPECT FROM [redacted] HUMAN RACE.

[redacted] PEOPLE ARE REAL STUPID... BUT YOU'LL UNDERSTAND THIS!

THESE CHARACTERS [redacted] THE SAME [redacted] AS THOSE [redacted] IN NEW YORK... BUT THESE GUYS ARE ACTING MORE HONESTLY...!

I'M WALKING OUT OF HERE... ANYONE WANT TO MEET THE GREAT FLAME, JUST STAND IN MY WAY!

YAAAAAGHHH!

I SHOULD HAVE TREATED THE ALCHEMAX PEOPLE LIKE THIS... WOULD HAVE [redacted] A LOT OF TIME AND MONEY.

IT'S [redacted] EASY TO GET ALONG WITH THE HUMAN RACE WHEN [redacted] JUST *BEAT* THE CRUD OUT OF THEM... NO BUILD-UP OF TENSION... NO HOLDING BACK YOUR ANGER...

...JUST LET YOUR BODY DO THE TALKING!

BUT THERE'S ALWAYS *SOMEONE* WHO HAS TO SPOIL THINGS... LIKE THE REFUSE FLOATING ON THE TOP OF THE STAGNANT POOL... THERE'S ALWAYS SOME JERK AT THE TOP!

WHETHER IT'S A PRIEST OR POLITICIAN OR CORPORATE HEAD... *SOMEONE* HAS TO MAKE EVERYONE'S LIFE MISERABLE!

NO, DECEITFUL ONE... IT IS YOU WHO SHALL MEET THE FLAME...

...NONE MAY STAND AGAINST THE *CLEANSING FIRE* OF THE *GREAT FLAME!* I BANISH YOU FROM THIS WORLD, IMPOSTOR!

WELL, THAT'S OKAY BY ME... I'D FINALLY FOUND A *REAL* BAD GUY -- I COULD RIP THIS FREAK APART AND FEEL REALLY CLEAN!

JUST HIM AND ME... LET'S SEE WHAT HE COULD DO!

AND YOU OTHER GOOD PEOPLE-- DIE HAPPY! I HONOR YOU WITH FIRE...!

YOU SHALL ALL BE FOREVER IN THE LIGHT OF THE "GREAT FLAME"... NO GREATER HONOR EXISTS ...!

AYEEE! IIEEGH!

GGRAAKGH!

EVEN YOU, HORNED MAN-- BURN AND REJOICE!

NOOO- AARRGH!

BENNETT & ADAMS

TO BE CONTINUED!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

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HULK 2099

CONTINUING OUR LIFETIME PREQUEL TO HULK 2099 #1

MAL.

THANK YOU FOR THIS LAST-MINUTE MEETING, MISTER MEYER. AS I PROMISED, I HAVE SOMETHING NEW TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEGOTIATIONS.

I HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED DOING BUSINESS WITH DRACO!

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

HULK 2099

THE CLOSING NET

GERARD JONES WRITER

[redacted] ARTIST

[redacted] IVY INKER

STARK[redacted] LETTERING

TO[redacted] COLORIST

JOEY [redacted]

TOM [redacted]EFALCO CHIEF

TELL MY BUSINESS AFFAIRS PEOPLE THAT THE OTHER PARTY TRYING TO BUY *LOTUSLAND ENTERTAINMENT*... HAS JUST DROPPED OUT OF THE BIDDING.

Y-YES, SIR.

THEN, WHILE MY *CYBERNETIC HALF* PROBES THE DATABASE MEYER COLLECTED ON LOTUSLAND...

WAIT.

INTERESTING. LOTUSLAND OWNS SECRET INFORMATION ON THE *KNIGHTS OF THE BANNER*.

THE *WHO?!*

YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW.

LET'S JUST SAY THAT SERENDIPITY [redacted] A WONDERFUL THING.

THIS IS MY PLACE. FOR NOW.

I DON'T NEED HIM!

THESE ARE MY GUESTS. FOR NOW.

THE LAST SURVIVING KNIGHT OF THE ROUND DOESN'T NEED ANYBODY'S HELP!

GAWAIN, YOU CAN'T GO OUT THERE INJURED -- KNOWING NOTHING ABOUT SURVIVING IN THE CITY!

JOHN MAY BE COLD AND SELFISH -- BUT HE SAVED YOUR LIFE AND YOU NEED HIM! YOU HAVE TO TELL HIM TO STAY HERE AND TAKE CARE OF YOU!

WAIT A MINUTE, QUIRK... I'M NOT THE ONE WHO NEEDS HIM!

YOU WANT JOHN TO STAY WITH ME -- SO YOU DON'T LOSE HIM!

I... DON'T WANT TO LOSE...

...JOHN?

WHY SHOULD I GIVE A SHOCK ABOUT JOHN SIGGENHART?!

HE SAVED MY SKIN ONCE -- OUT OF PRINCIPLE! SINCE THEN HE'S USED MY HELP, USED ME AS A NURSE FOR YOU --

-- AND TOLD ME HE'S BAILING, TO GO LIVE IN THE DESERT LIKE A HAPPY LITTLE HULK!

I'M LEAVING THAT TRANS-MOGRIFYING GAMMA-FREAK...

...AND I'M HAPPY ABOUT IT!

YEAH, SURE YOU ARE.

NIRVANA CDS... DOC MARTENS... COLLECTED WISDOM OF BILL CLINTON...

...SPIKE LEE GLASSES... "LIMBAUGH IN '96" PIN... ANTI-MUTANT POSTER... SEINFELD TAPES...

...MY WHOLE THUMPIN' 1990S COLLECTION! THERE AIN'T GONNA BE NOTHIN' LEFT OF QUIRK WHEN YOU GET BACK, JOHNNIE!

BE CAREFUL WHERE YOU *CARRY* THAT STUFF, QUIRK.

ACK!

A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT THERE'D LOVE TO *STEAL* A FEW 20TH CENTURY ANTIQUES.

THIS IS ME.

FOR NOW.

MY PINK-BOY SELF, TRYING TO TIE UP HIS OBLIGATIONS SO THE REAL ME CAN BREATHE FREE.

I'M NOT GOING TO DUMP YOU AND GAWAIN ON THIS CITY OF *VIPERS.*

BEFORE I LEAVE FOR THE DESERT, I'M TAKING YOU TO *SAFE HAVENS.*

HOW NOBLE OF YOU.

NOW I'M GOING TO GET MORE MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR GAWAIN...

"...AND WHEN I COME BACK," I FINISHED, "I HOPE YOU'LL STILL BE HERE."

AND I DO HOPE THEY'RE THERE. BOTH OF 'EM. MORE THAN I CAN LET 'EM KNOW.

IT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH, LEAVING. BUT IT'S WHAT THE SOUL OF THE HULK DEMANDS.

THIS IS LOTUSLAND. WHERE I'VE BEEN SELLING MY SOUL FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS.

I KNOW HOW TO CRASH SECURITY HERE, AND I KNOW WHAT'S IN THE STUDIO'S INFIRMARY.

I KEEP TELLING MYSELF, "IT'S FOR GAWAIN. IT'S TO MAKE UP FOR WHAT I DID." OTHERWISE, I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I CAN TAKE THIS...

...SNEAKING AROUND IN THIS SCRAWNY PINK BODY, PLAYING THE GAMES HUMANS PLAY...

...WITHOUT GOING INSANE.

WHAT'S THAT -- ?!

KILLER [redacted] LIST LIKE THIS ONES I [redacted] TO STOP FROM [redacted] THOSE STRIKING WORKERS THIS [redacted]

THEY DON'T BELONG HERE! AND THEY SHOULDN'T BE TAKING THOSE FILES!

LOTUSLAND EMPLOYEE!

WE REGRET THAT WE ARE REQUIRED TO KILL YOU.

POLITE GUN-BOYS, HUH?

ZZAK

THAT'S A GOOD TRAIT TO HAVE IN THE CORPORATE WORLD.

FMF

FMF

JUST TOO DARN BAD FOR YOU! --

-- THAT I'M QUITTIN' THE COMPANY!

SHROOK

BWOOM

BIG GUN, CLOSE RANGE.

BIG FIST.

KRAK

POP

EVEN CLOSER.

EMERGENCY ALTERNATE PROCEDURE ENACTED. DISKS IN READ-MODE. DOWNLOAD BEGINNING.

DOWNLOAD COMPLETE. BEGIN TRANSMISSION FOR UPLOAD TO...

< interrupt >

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT! A

YOU'RE TALKING TO *YOURSELF*, MISTER MACHINE!

BUT *HEY*, SO AM I.

KRAK

THAT'S THE NICE THING ABOUT BEING THIS *UGLY*. THERE'S NO POINT TO BEING EMBARRASSED ANYMORE.

NOW LET'S SEE WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO...

WHAT?

"KNIGHTS OF THE *BANNER*"? AND "JOHN *GIBEN-HART*"?!

SOMEBODY'S TRACKING THE *KNIGHTS*...AND THEY'VE LINKED 'EM TO *ME*. MEANING *QUIRK* AND *GAWAIN* ARE SITTING DUCKS...

-- UNLESS I DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

AND **DO** SOMETHING HE **DOES!** EVERY MONTH, [redacted] **HULK 2099 #1!**

FROM THE MEMOIRS OF SEERESS, MISTRESS OF HELLROCK.

Life is cruel.

Much as we would like to believe otherwise, it is an unpalatable fact that good is anathema to it.

Naive innocence has no place in a ruthless Cosmos.

And there is nowhere more cruel than Hellrock.

Some of those sent to Hellrock are criminals, most are simply out of favor with the despotic Corporation-Alchemax.

Alas, the good die young here... choking on the toxic gases that compromise the atmosphere of this barren dumping ground.

Others are not so fortunate...

The dark and sinful mutate on its poisons... And, as flesh and spirit wither, all that survives is... that which is already rotten within them.

These demons became the mindless slaves of my master, Dethstryk... He calls them...

THE MUTROIDS.

But sometimes, the turgid seas that wash these fetid shores deliver one as perverse as my own Dark Lord.

One, to my shame, I had prayed for.

I sensed his existence, and my psychic influence caused his name to be omitted from the list of criminals scheduled for execution... and to face banishment here instead.

I speak of the one who became... SOUL-DARK-- the man without a soul.

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

EVILUTION'S CURVIVAL OF THE SICKEST

Pat Mills & Jerry Skinner
WRITERS
Luke Ross : PENCILER
Keith Williams : INKER
Vickie Williams : LETTERER
Justin C. Nisbet : COLORIST
Matt Morra : EDITOR
Tom De Falco : CHIEF

Because of the darkness within him, Hellrock's toxins had a special effect.

PERHAPS NOT... BUT I AM THE FIRST TO DESTROY YOU!

WE'VE SEEN *OTHER* PRETENDERS TO THE THRONE OF HELLROCK! YOU'RE *NOT* THE FIRST, SOUL-DARK!

STRAAK

His arms extended into thrashing flagellum, dark tendrils of power designed to sear the lifeforce from his victims.

There was a gaping maw where his mouth should be... a slopping vacuole that absorbed the energy of his victims into the chill void within him...

And with each victim he grew a little stronger...

He slugged his way up through the ranks of the depraved...

Some commit evil for profit... Soul-Dark committed evil for evil... with others, cruelty dulled the senses, with him it made him shine!

His path inevitably led him to the "Watering Hole"... the only place where the Mutroids meet.

They come not just to drink... There are other forms of enjoyment--pets... fresh-faced, freckled innocents, kept alive in Envirotanks...

PLEASE... DON'T HURT US...

What is it about innocence that so delights and torments the corrupt...?

You may disapprove and affect disgust...

Think hard, reader, before you claim, "Not I."

But who can look at a dungeon without wanting to see some wretch suffering within?

But Soul-Dark was different...

He wanted to see the neck bowed before he broke it!

PLEASE! WE'RE INNOCENT! WE'VE BEEN BROUGHT HERE BY MISTAKE.

YES... YOU ARE--BUT THERE'S NO MISTAKE.

He had an unholy fascination with torment itself. The utter unfairness of it... the hopelessness and vulnerability of his victims...

SLAM

HOLD, SOUL-[redacted]! THESE VICTIMS [redacted] THE PERSONAL PROPERTY OF *DETHSTRYK*! YOU MAY LOOK--BUT NOT TOUCH!

WRONG, SEERESS...THEY BELONG TO THE "LORD OF HELLROCK" AND I [redacted] *CLAIM* THAT TITLE!

IN THE NAME OF THOR...HAVE MERCY!

He had the inquisitive, questing evil of a child... Many children pull the legs off insects...

But he is the only one I know who grew to be an adult and used to...NO! There are some things I cannot write down!

TAKE ME ...SPARE THE OTHERS!

MY FRIEND, I WILL TAKE YOU ALL.

I draw a veil over the unspeakable nature of Soul-Dark's worst atrocities.

You, who have not sunk to my level...who have not abandoned all hope and decency...who wish to retain your innocence...

...tremble and turn away.

WHY... WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

EVERYONE LIKES TO WRITE THEIR NAMES IN THE SNOW...I SEE YOU AS *BLANK* CANVASES AND MYSELF THE ARTIST...

I SHALL PAINT *SELF-PORTRAITS* UPON YOUR [redacted] SOULS!

HURRR! HURRR! HURRR! DO IT SOME MORE!

But, just as Soul-Dark's ascendance at Hellrock was inevitable...so was his challenge to the throne.

THOSE VICTIMS WERE *MINE!*

And so it came to pass, even as I'd planned, that Soul-Dark would do battle with my Dark Lord....so they would destroy each other and I would be freed.

I AM THE *NEW* RULER OF HELLROCK, DETHSTRYK..! IT'S JUST THAT *YOU HAVEN'T* REALIZED YOUR REDUNDANCY YET!

CONSIDER YOURSELF DISMISSED!

THWAK

FOOL! YOU SPEAK AS IF YOU'RE FIRST TO MAKE THIS EMPTY THREAT!

YOU CHALLENGE THE LORD OF THE MUTROIDS!

SKRAK!

A TITLE THAT WAS WON BRUTALLY IN CRUEL COMBAT!

NOW I *END* THIS, SOUL-DARK!

WRONG! YOU END THE LIFE OF TWO OF YOUR *MINIONS*!

FOR I SIMPLY TAKE YOUR POWER AND *DISSIPATE* IT!

NOOOOOO

I SEE THE PROBLEM... VERY CLEVER... LET ME JUST *RECTIFY* THAT...

SILENCE, WOMAN! LEST I STRIKE *YOU* ALSO... MY FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS MEAN *NOTHING* TO ME!

NO, DETHSTRYK... I *READ* WHAT'S IN YOUR MIND... DON'T *KILL* ALL YOUR FOLLOWERS..!

IMPRESSIVE! THEN IT'S JUST YOU AND I, DETHSTRYK!

I TAKE YOUR SOUL NOW!

YOU WANT... MY SOUL--? VERY WELL... TAKE THAT WHICH YOU CANNOT HAVE...

...THE EYES ARE THE WINDOWS TO THE SOUL... STARE DEEP WITHIN MINE!

LOOK, SOUL-DARK-- LOOK... AND TASTE TOTAL TERROR!

I... I...

GIBBER! SPLUURG!

NO! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! NO ONE COULD BE... COULD DO...!

Dethstryk was so horrible... so corrupt... so ultimately evil... finding humor and solace only in unimaginable perversity...

...it was too much-- even for Soul-Dark.

I WON'T KILL YOU... COMPARED TO ME, YOU TRULY ARE AN INNOCENT...

...I LEAVE YOU IN THE VICTIM TANK AS A DREADFUL WARNING TO THE OTHER WOULD-BE USURPERS!

THUD

My plan had failed. So I was left with no choice...

I had not wanted to do this, because who knows the consequences if those Titans clash...

Yet it was the only way, if I was to be free.

In the past, there had been one who had bested Dethstryk...

MY LORD, I HAVE GAZED INTO THE REALMS OF TIME AND SPACE... AND I HAVE PERCEIVED THE WHEREABOUTS OF YOUR GREATEST ENEMY!

WHAT? YOU HAVE DETERMINED HIS LOCATION AT LAST?

SO! THE TIME HAS COME FOR OUR PATHS TO CROSS ONCE AGAIN...!

BUT THIS TIME I WILL UTTERLY DESTROY YOU...

RAVAGE!

DIRECT EDITION

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2099

KER-RAAASH!

DRIVING FORCE

BITE THE BIG ONE, SQUISHIES! I'M COMING THROUGH!

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